

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----056830 311140Z /11

O 311123Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7198

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 05798

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FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, GW, TU, CY, OTRA (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)
SUBJECT: CHRISTOPHER-GENSCHER MEETING ON TURKEY

BEGIN SUMMARY: DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER MARCH 30 AND REVIEWED OUR FOUR-POINT PACKAGE PROPOSAL ON TURKEY AND THE POSITIVE TURKISH REACTION TO IT IN HIS TALKS IN ANKARA. HE CONVEYED ECEVIT'S REQUEST TO GENSCHER FOR FAVORABLE FRG ACTION ON THIRD-COUNTRY ARMS TRANSFERS IN THE EVENT THE U.S. ARMS EMBARGO IS LIFTED. GENSCHER RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY ON THIS AND STRESSED THE GERMAN INTEREST IN SUPPORTING TURKEY GENERALLY. HE SAID THE FRG WANTS TO GIVE A PUSH TO THE WORK OF THE OECD TURKEY CONSORTIUM. END SUMMARY.

1. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID THE PRESIDENT HAD RECENTLY CONCLUDED A REVIEW OF OUR RELATIONS WITH TURKEY AND HAD ASKED HIM TO GO TO ANKARA TO DISCUSS OUR NEW APPROACH AND TO GET THE TURKISH REACTION. WE HAVE IN MIND A PACKAGE CONSISTING OF FOUR ELEMENTS: 1) THE PRESIDENT
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INTENDS TO ASK CONGRESS TO REMOVE THE EMBARGO ON MILITARY SALES; 2) HE WILL ASK CONGRESS FOR \$50 MILLION IN SECURITY SUPPORT ASSISTANCE, WHICH CAN BE USED FOR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PURPOSES; 3) HE WILL ASK CONGRESS FOR \$175 MILLION IN FOREIGN MILITARY SALES CREDITS FOR TURKEY; 4) THE PRESIDENT PROPOSES TO RENEGOTIATE THE 1976 DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT. THE DEPUTY

SECRETARY SAID HE HAD TOLD ECEVIT PRIVATELY THAT THE PACKAGE WAS NOT LINKED TO ANY ACTION ON THE TURKISH PART. HOWEVER, TURKISH ACTIONS ON CYPRUS WOULD HAVE A BEARING ON CONGRESSIONAL REACTION TO THE PACKAGE. IT BECAME INCREASINGLY CLEAR IN THE COURSE OF HIS CONVERSATIONS IN ANKARA THAT THE REMOVAL OF THE EMBARGO HAS BROAD SIGNIFICANCE FOR TURKEY.

2. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY CHARACTERIZED THE NET RESULT OF HIS CONVERSATIONS IN ANKARA AS POSITIVE. WE WERE NOW LOOKING TOWARD THE EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE FOUR-POINT PACKAGE. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A STATEMENT BY ECEVIT AND DENKTASH ON CYPRUS. OUR ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE PACKAGE AND THE STATEMENT ON CYPRUS WERE NOT LINKED BUT THEY WOULD BE CHRONOLOGICALLY SITUATED IN A WAY THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL. AS A CONSEQUENCE, WE HOPE TO BE ON OUR WAY TO THE RESTORATION OF RELATIONS WITH AN IMPORTANT ALLY. WE WILL HAVE TO WORK TO STRENGTHEN TURKEY AND TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION OF THE TURKISH FORCES WHICH HAS CLEARLY DETERIORATED.

3. GENSCHER SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO HAVE THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S POSITIVE REPORT. THE TURKISH SITUATION WAS NOT EASY. WITH GREECE MOVING TOWARD THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, IT WAS ALL THE MORE NECESSARY TO TRY TO DO
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SOMETHING FOR TURKEY. THE TURKISH ARMY WAS AN IMPORTANT STABILIZING FACTOR. THE FRG TRIES TO DO ITS BEST TO ASSIST. GENSCHER CITED THE FACT THAT, DESPITE UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE FRG, THE GERMANS HAVE NOT SENT THEIR VERY LARGE NUMBER OF TURKISH WORKERS HOME. ON ECONOMIC AID, GENSCHER ASKED IF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY THOUGHT THE TURKS HAVE A CLEAR CONCEPT OF HOW TO SOLVE THEIR ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY REPLIED THAT THEY CLEARLY HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO. THEY HAD HAD USEFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE IMF WITH A VIEW TO PUTTING THEIR HOUSE IN ORDER, AND IF THEY SUCCEEDED IN THIS, IT WOULD OPEN OTHER POSSIBILITIES.

4. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID THAT ECEVIT HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY A SPECIFIC MESSAGE TO GENSCHER. PART OF THE EFFECT OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO WOULD BE THAT THIRD COUNTRY ARMS TRANSFERS WOULD BE POSSIBLE. ECEVIT WANTS FAVORABLE GERMAN CONSIDERATION OF TURKISH NEEDS ON THIS POINT. HE

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HAD BROADENED HIS REQUEST TO INCLUDE FRG SUPPORT TO TURKEY ON MILITARY MANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES. GENSCHER COMMENTED THAT IN 1974 THE FRG HAD TRIED TO HELP THE TURKS WITH THIRD COUNTRY TRANSFERS BUT HAD IN THE END BEEN PREVENTED FROM DOING SO BY U.S. CONGRESSIONAL ACTION. ONCE THE EMBARGO IS LIFTED, HOWEVER, THE FRG WOULD BE ANXIOUS TO MOVE AHEAD. ON MANUFACTURING, THEY HAD ALSO TRIED TO HELP TURKEY RE AMMUNITION PRODUCTION BUT BECAUSE OF THE DECLINE IN THE TURKISH ECONOMY NOTHING HAD COME OF THIS. GENSCHER THEN REFERRED TO THE TURKEY CONSORTIUM IN THE OECD AND SAID THE FRG WANTS TO GIVE IMPETUS TO ITS WORK. IT WOULD ASK ALL THE OECD MEMBERS TO SEE HOW THEY COULD HELP IMPROVE THE TURKISH SITUATION.

5. GENSCHER ASKED WHAT THE PROSPECTS FOR THE PACKAGE ARE WITH THE CONGRESS. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID THE PACKAGE HAD BEEN PUT TOGETHER WITH THE CONGRESS IN MIND. IT WOULD NOT BE RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTICALLY BY THE SUPPORTERS OF GREECE IN CONGRESS BUT HE CONSIDERED IT HAS REASONABLE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS. MUCH WOULD DEPEND, HOWEVER, ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY TURKEY AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ON CYPRUS. IF THEY WERE REASONABLY FORTHCOMING, OPPOSITION IN THE CONGRESS WOULD BE LESSENER. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TOLD GENSCHER HE HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED
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BY ECEVIT'S REACTION WHEN HE RAISED THE TOUCHY QUESTION

OF GREEK RESETTLEMENT IN VAROSHA. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY STRESSED THE SENSITIVENESS OF THIS INFORMATION. GENSCHER EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE TURKS WOULD BE WISE ENOUGH TO MOVE AHEAD IN THEIR OWN WAY AT THEIR OWN TIME. IN RESPONSE TO A FURTHER QUESTION, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID THE GREEK DCA WOULD ALSO BE RENEGOTIATED, AND WE WOULD BE ASKING THE CONGRESS FOR FMS CREDITS OF \$145 MILLION.

6. THE CONVERSATION ALSO COVERED AN EXTENDED TOUR D'HORIZON OF AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EAST ISSUES WITHOUT, HOWEVER, BREAKING NEW GROUND.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MEETINGS, EMBARGOES, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN05798
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: FROM DEPUTY SEC CHRISTOPHER, DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO SEC PARTY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850101-2726
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978035/aaaaadvy.tel
Line Count: 183
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d165f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3276889
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHRISTOPHER-GENSCHER MEETING ON TURKEY
TAGS: PEPR, OTRA, MASS, GE, TU, CY, US, (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN), (GENSCHER, HANS-DIETRICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d165f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014